

Message Text

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ACTION COA-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS CA US

SUBJECT: U.S. CANADA SALMON TALKS

REF: STATE 43503

THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE IN THE COMMONS QUESTION PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 26 CONCERNING THE U.S-CANADA SALMON AGREEMENT:

BEGIN QUOTE.

MR. STUART LEGGATT (NEW MINISTER): MR. SPEAKER, MY QUESTION IS DIRECTED TO THE MINISTER OF STATE (FISHERIES). IN VIEW OF THE PROBLEMS CANADA IS NOW ENCOUNTERING IN COMPLETING SOME KIND OF AGREEMENT ON U.S. INTERCEPTION OF THE 1975 SALMON CATCH ON THE WEST COAST, AND IN VIEW OF THE LIKELIHOOD THAT WITHOUT A CHANGE IN THE U.S. POSITION THERE WILL NOT BE AN AGREEMENT IN 1975, WOULD THE MINISTER ADVISE THE HOUSE WHAT PLANS HIS DEPARTMENT NOW HAS TO PROTECT CANADIAN SALMON STOCK FROM EXCESSIVE U.S. INTERCEPTION THIS YEAR?

HON. ROMEO LEBLANC (MINISTER OF STATE (FISHERIES):

MR. SPEAKER, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT THIS PROBLEM IS A LONG LASTING ONE AND A DIFFICULT ONE, I AM NOT READY TO ARRIVE AT CONCLUSIONS WHICH ARE AS PESSIMISTIC AS THE HON. MEMBER INDICATED. THERE ARE MEETINGS GOING ON TODAY IN THE CANADIAN GROUP, AND I WILL AWAIT THE

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OUTCOME OF THAT.

MR. LEGGATT: IN VIEW OF THE RELUCTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES TO COME TO SOME AGREEMENT EVEN ON THE PRESENT CANADIAN BARGAINING POSITION, WOULD THE MINISTER ADVISE IF IT IS HIS INTENTION TO WITHDRAW FROM THOSE NEGOTIATIONS AND RETURN TO THE PRINCIPLES AGREED TO IN MAY OF 1971 IN WHICH THERE WOULD BE AN EQUALITY OF INTERCEPTION OF THE TOTAL CATCH ON THE WEST COAST RATHER THAN THE PRESENT CANADIAN POSITION? ALSO WOULD THE MINISTER ADVISE IF HE WILL SEEK THE HELP OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SO THAT WE CAN PUT SOME PRESSURE IN TO THIS BARGAINING SITUATION AND ARRIVE AT SOME SOLUTION?

MR. LEBLANC (WESTMORELAND-KENT): MR. SPEAKER, THOSE ARE SUGGESTIONS WHICH I WILL UNDERTAKE TO CONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY. END QUOTE.

PORTER

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